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TAXONOMIC & RANGE INVESTIGATIONS

NO. 24.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

December 2 to 16, 1909.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

ACACIA LONGIFOLIA. 26304. From Limavida, Chile. A beautiful yellow-flowered ornamental tree, according to Mr. Husbands. For distribution later.

CHUSQUEA QUILA. 26310-311. Seed of quila, the forage bamboo, from Limavida, Chile. For distribution later.

CITRULLUS VULGARIS. 26414-418. Seeds of five selections of the small individual Roumanian watermelon grown from S.P.I. No. 22658 at Salisbury, Md., by Mr. W.F. Allen. For distribution later.

EMBOTHRIUM COCCINEUM. 26314-315. "A beautiful flowering ornamental tree. Has bunches of bright crimson flowers in early October. Useful as a timber tree." (Husbands.)

EUCRYPHIA CORDIFOLIA. 26316. Common name north of Valdivia 'Ulmo', south 'Muermo'. Its bark contains about 35 percent of tannin. Ulmo bark is better than Linge and has been successfully applied in the form of concentrated extracts. A handsome ornamental on account of its great bunches of beautiful white, fragrant flowers." (Husbands.) For previous introduction see No. 25490. For distribution later.

EUGENIA. 26412. Large rose-apple from Honolulu, Hawaii. Presented by Mr. J.E. Higgins. "Beautiful fruit of very dark red color, about the size of a small pear and of rather pleasing flavor. Recommended for crossing with more highly flavored species of Eugenia such as E. michelli. Distributed.

GARCINIA MANGOSTANA. 26363-385. Mangosteens grown at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Greenhouse, Washington, D.C. "These seedlings were raised from S.P.I. No. 21276; from Peradeniya, Ceylon. They were inarched to four year old plants of Garcinia xanthochymus, S.P.I. No. 11788, raised from seeds secured from, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya

D. G. Fairchild

Ceylon. Since the unions were effected the mangosteens have made splendid growth and this method promises to be the best one so far as my experimental work in the propagation of the mangosteen has gone. It has been deemed best to give each of these inarched plants a separate S.P.I. Number so that they will not be confused with other mangosteens workad by different methods." (G. W. Oliver.)

METTERNICHIA. 26353. From Mr. Ad. Tonduz, San Jose, Costa Rica. Edible tubers of Metternichia wercklei (Solanaceae.) Mr. Werckle experimented with eating these, and found them agreeable and without any poisonous principle. For distribution later.

GEVUINA AVELLANA. From Limavida, Chile. "One of the handsomest trees in the world because of its general symmetrical grace and beauty; has bunches of fragrant white flowers and crimson nuts." (Husbands.) For distribution later.

GUNNERA CHILENSIS. 26320. From Limavida, Chile. Native name 'Nalca'. Like a giant pie plant or rhubarb. Very ornamental; has an agreeable, sweet-acid taste; juice made into ices; roots used in medicine. For distribution later.

LAURELIA SEMPERVIRENS. 26321. From Limavida, Chile. Evergreen laurel. Well known as valuable timber tree. It has nearly all the medicinal properties of Laurelia aromatica. For distribution later.

NOTHOFAGUS SP. 26324. From Limavida, Chile. 'Rauli'. A giant forest tree of the greatest industrial value. It may be favorably compared with the American black walnut in respect to its uses and commercial importance. In my opinion Rauli is the most valuadle wood in Chile for general uses." (Husbands.) For distribution later.

POLAKOWSKIA TACACO. 26244-245. Prerented by Mr. Ad. Tonduz, San Jose, Costa Rica. No. 26244 is a small, fidrous variety and 26245 a large, fiberless variety. "A cucurbitaceous plant used as a green vegetable. Closely related to the chayote but having quite a distinct taste. For experiment by the Bureau before distribution.

POPULUS LASIOCARPA. 26355. Purchased from Messrs. James Veitch & Sons, Chelsea, London, England. "The leaves of this new poplar are extremely large and attractive, measuring 10-12 inches in width. They are bright green in color, while the petiole, midrib and principal veins are rich red. The tree in Central China attains a height of 15-40 feet and should prove a valuable addition to our ornamental deciduous trees." (Veitch & Sons.) For distribution later.

PRUNUS SPP. 26246-252. Seven species of cherries from the mountains of China at altitudes from 2500 to 3500 feet. Purchased from the Arnold Arboretum. For distribution later.

PSIDIUM LAURIFOLIUM. 26413. Presented by Mr. F. Evans, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Jelly made from this fruit is pleasantly acid and quite distinct in flavor from the ordinary guava jelly made from P. guajava and P. polycarpum. Is also said to jelly much quicker than the common West India guava. For distribution later.

QUILLAJA SAPONARIA. 26325. From Limavida, Chile. 'Quillai'. It will certainly pay to make plantations of this valuable tree. The natural source of supply is exhausted. Bark rich in saponin, useful for cleansing purposes. (Husbands.) For distribution later.

RHAPHITHAMNUS PARVIFOLIUS. 26326. From Limavida, Chile. "It is an evergreen bush or treelet about 20 feet high, good for live fences and ornament." (Husbands.) For distribution later.

ROSA SPP. 26344-352. Plants of nine varieties of rambler roses from Woods Hole, Mass. Presented by Mr. M.H. Walsh, their originator whose creations have attracted so much attention. For distribution later.

SOPHORA TETRAPTERA. 26328. From Limavida, Chile. "This treelet of 12-15 feet is beautifully ornamental; has an abundance of bunches of fragrant yellow flowers in August and September. The wood is extra valuable on account of its extreme hardness. The scraped wood is used in medicine." (Husbands.) For distribution later.

TEPUALIA STIPULARIS. 26329. From Limavida, Chile. "A very beautiful small tree with extremely hard wood; grows in wet parts of Valdivia and all over island of Chiloe; forms dense, impassable forests." (Husbands.) For distribution later.

THEA SINENSIS. 26330-343. Fourteen kinds of tea from China. Procured by Vice-Consul Nightingale under directions from Mr. S. L. Gracey, American Consul at Fuchow, at the suggestion of Ambassador Rockhill before he left Pekin for St. Petersburg. In order to get these rare teas Mr. Nightingale made a long and difficult trip in boats and on foot into the district of the River of the Nine Windings, back of Fuchow. He has sent a detailed report of his purchase of these teas and the location of the so-called Cliff teas for the tea specialtists. For several years Dr. Shepard of Summerville has attempted to secure these superior teas for his collection, but owing to the difficulty entailed in securing them he has not been successful. These were secured especially for him and will be placed in Dr. Rodney True's hands for the tea experiments he is conducting at Summerville. Mr. Nightingale's interesting report is at the disposal of those who desire to read it.

VACCINIUM VITISIDAEA. 26420. Mountain cranberry from Harrington Harbor, Labrador. Presented by Miss Edith Mayon. For distribution later.

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. 26302-303. Two kinds of cowpea from Entebbe, Uganda; presented by Mr. R. Fyffe. One buff-seeded, the other black-seeded.

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. 26399-406. Eight varieties of cowpeas from Mount Selinda, Rhodesia, South Africa.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

INDIA, Baroda. B.S. Cavanagh, Nov. 26. Is sending pods of Terminalia chebula.

INDIA, Kirkee. Imperial Cotton Specialist, Nov. 1909. Sends herbarium specimens of Limonia acidissima and Atalantia racemosa, and dried fruits and seeds of L. acidissima.

INDIA, Nagpur. J.Mollison, Nov.24. Sends seeds of wild fruit trees grown in Kashmir - plum, peach, apricot, pear, apple.

JAPAN, Kobe. Albert J. Perkins, Nov. 21. Sends samples of Japanese papers, some of them waterproofed with Aleurites cordata and with persimmon juice. This waterproofed paper is used to protect pears, apples, peaches, etc., from insects. Also sends samples of oiled papers used for making umbrellas. Saw Edgeworthia papyrifera growing in mountains on rather poor soil but with plenty of moisture. Sends some samples of naked barleys presented by Dr. Nakamura, Director Experiment Station, Nara. This Experiment Station makes a specialty of rice and other grains. They also have an orchard of navel oranges.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, Manila. Wm. S. Lyon. Mr. Lyon has just returned from the Sarangani Islands, the southernmost of the Philippine group, where no Spaniard seems ever to have been. He discovered there a new fruit with the native name 'Balun', which he has not yet been able to identify. It resembles in form and color a Duchesse d'Angouleme pear. The outer layer of flesh is snow white and slightly granular in texture and not dissimilar in character and taste to the same pear. From thence in to the seed the flesh is melting, vinous and more than juicy. Owing to the thick, edible but slightly inferior outer pulp and the large amount of tow-covered seed the available good pulp is small; that small amount has the flavor of vanilla tempered with just the right subacidity of a very ripe strawberry.

TURKEY-IN-ASIA, Aintab. Mrs. F.A. Shepard, Nov. 16. Sends wild vetches, clovers and oats from the mountain regions 25-30 miles from the Mediterranean 3000-4000 feet above sea-level. Also package of 'Menerigish', a variety of wild terebinth upon which the pistacia is grafted. Offers to collect other mountain tree seeds or wild leguminosae another season if desired.

RECENT VISITORS.

TRIPOLI. Consul Coffin called. Brought 8 small boxes of date samples and 20 cuttings of pomegranates. Will get cuttings of the date varieties in the spring. Will get Tripoli alfalfa seed to be tested in comparison with Arabian alfalfa.